

Application No.: 10/771,040
Docket No.: UC0210USNA

REMARKS

Status of the Application

This paper is responsive to the Office Action, entered in the above referenced pending application.

Claims 11, 12, 14, 19, and 21 are pending. Claim 21 is newly added and Claims 1-6, 8-10, 18, and 20 are canceled herein.

Claims 11, 12, and 19 have been amended to change the dependency.

Claim 21 has been added to recite the method of Claim 14 in which the plurality of monomers is treated with a mixture of alkylating agents. Support for this can be found at page 4, lines 23-30.

No new matter has been introduced by any of the amendments or additions.

The amendments are also within the scope of the original claims, so that no new search should be required.

The pending claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 and § 103.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

[1] Kreuder et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,621,131 ("*Kreuder*").

Claims 1-2, 8-12, and 18-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Kreuder*. The remaining claims under this rejection are 11, 12, and 19, each of which is dependent on Claim 14.

Kreuder discloses conjugated polymers having spirofluorene centers. The spirofluorene center may have substituents that are the same or different. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in *Kreuder* of forming a mixture of randomly substituted spirofluorene monomers, or monomers of any kind, as recited in Applicants' Claim 14. Nor is there any suggestion of polymerizing such a mixture of monomers. Furthermore, there is no teaching of treating a plurality of spirofluorene monomers, or monomers of any kind, with a mixture of alkylating agents having different alkyl groups, as recited in newly added Claim 21.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 14 and all the claims dependent thereon, are not anticipated by *Kreuder*. Applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

[2] Woo et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,962,631 ("*Woo*")

Claims 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Woo*. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Woo discloses polymers and copolymers of 9-substituted fluorenes. The fluorenes may have substituents that are the same or different. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in *Woo* of forming a mixture of randomly substituted fluorene monomers, or monomers of any kind, as recited in Applicants' Claim 14. Nor is there any suggestion of polymerizing such a mixture of monomers. Furthermore, there is no teaching of treating a

NOV 14 2007

Application No.: 10/771,040
Docket No.: UC0210USNA

plurality of fluorene monomers, or monomers of any kind, with a mixture of alkylating agents having different alkyl groups, as recited in newly added Claim 21.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 14 is not anticipated by *Woo*. Applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

[3] *O'Dell et al.*, U.S. Publication No. 2004/0158017 ("*O'Dell*")

Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *O'Dell*.

Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

O'Dell discloses a polymer having monomeric units which are fluorenes having aryl substituents at the 9 position. The two substituents can be different. However, there is no teaching or suggestion in *O'Dell* of forming a mixture of randomly substituted fluorene monomers, or monomers of any kind, as recited in Applicants' Claim 14. Nor is there any suggestion of polymerizing such a mixture of monomers. Furthermore, there is no teaching of treating a plurality of fluorene monomers, or monomers of any kind, with a mixture of alkylating agents having different alkyl groups, as recited in newly added Claim 21.

Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 14 is not anticipated by *O'Dell*. Applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103


Claims 3 and 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Kreuder et al.*, U.S. Patent No. 5,621,131. Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is rendered moot by the cancellation of those claims.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that a thorough and complete response to the Office Action mailed on August 14, 2007, has been made in this paper and that the above referenced pending application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance for Claims 11, 12, 14, 19, and 21 is therefore earnestly solicited.

Should there be any questions about the content of this paper or the status of the application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,


JOHN H. LAMMING
ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS
Registration No.: 34,857
Telephone: (302) 992-5877
Facsimile: (302) 892-1026

Dated: November 14, 2007